



B O R O U G H   O F   A L T R I N C H A M  
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THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1949.



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the year 1949.  
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Town Hall,  
Altrincham.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Altrincham.  
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Your worhsip, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the thirteenth Annual Report of the Municipal Borough of Altrincham, dealing with health aspects of the Borough for the year 1949.

The ensuing report is based on the directions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50.

GENERAL FEATURES OF THE BOROUGH.

The Borough is situated in the northern part of Mid-Cheshire, 8 miles south of Manchester.

The eastern and southern portions of the Borough are low lying and the north-western part is well placed on high ground.

The total population in accordance with the Registrar General's Estimate is 39,480.

There is a considerable industrial area containing several large engineering works of world wide repete, and a number of smaller concerns and factories, providing employment for a large section of the population.

A fair proportion of the population is residential, with business interests in Manchester, Salford and other towns.

The main shopping centre and Public Market (2 days per week) provide facilities for the greater portion of the people from adjoining districts.

A public market is held on Tuesday and Saturday of each week and is well patronised by shoppers from a very wide area.

The Municipality provides Public Libraries and a Public Swimming Bath. There is an 18 hole Municipal Golf Course, tennis courts, recreation grounds, all of which provide wide open spaces in the Borough.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area, 3,476 acres.  
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1949), 12,149.  
Rateable Value (at 31st December, 1949), £299,992.

Product of a penny rate,	£1,233.
Civilian Population,	39,450.
Total Population,	39,450.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Births.

The number of live births registered in, and allocated to, the Borough of Altrincham in 1949 is 596 (Males - 299, Females - 297). The number of still births is 15 (Males - 5, Females - 10.)

#### Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate Births,	565	283	282
Illegitimate Births,	<u>31</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>
Total,	<u>596</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>297</u>

#### Still Births.

Legitimate Births,	12	4	8
Illegitimate Births,	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

representing a Live Birth Rate of 15.1 per 1,000 of the population and a Still Birth Rate of 0.38 per 1,000 of the population. For 1948 these rates 15.9 and 0.20 respectively. The Still Birth Rate in 1947 was 0.38, in 1948 it was 0.20 and in 1949 it is 0.38.

The illegitimate live births number 31, being 4 per cent of the total. In 1948 this percentage was 4.6 and in 1947 these births were 3.4.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age is 14 (Males - 9, Females - 5).

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate,	12	8	4
Illegitimate,	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total,	14	9	5

equivalent to an Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.5 per 1,000 live births. In 1947, this rate was 37.0 and in 1948 it was 38.0.

This is the lowest infant mortality rate ever recorded in Altrincham and is well below the average for the county. It reflects to a considerable extent the value of the previous years of work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services generally.

The Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate is 69 per 1,000 illegitimate births, as in 1948.

The total number of deaths corrected for Outward and Inward Transfer is 446 (Males - 207, Females - 239), representing a Death Rate of 11.3 per 1,000 of the population. In 1948, the Death Rate was 10.8.

The following table gives the causes of death in detail -

Classified Causes of Death.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Typhoid and Paratyphoid,	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever,	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever,	0	0	0
Whooping Cough,	0	0	0
Diphtheria,	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System,	7	3	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis,	2	2	4
Syphilitic Diseases,	2	0	2
Influenza,	2	7	9
Measles,	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis,	1	0	1
Acute Infective Encephalitis,	0	1	1
Cancer of Mouth and Oesophagus in Males and Uterus in Females,	2	3	5
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum,	8	6	14
Cancer of Breast,	0	8	8
Cancer of all other sites,	21	19	40
Diabetes,	0	1	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions,	25	47	72
Heart Disease,	53	75	128
Other Diseases of Circulatory System,	9	10	19
Bronchitis,	11	9	20
Pneumonia,	6	4	10
Other Respiratory Diseases,	2	0	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum,	3	1	4
Appendicitis,	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases,	0	5	5
Nephritis,	12	10	22
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis,	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes,	0	1	1
Premature Birth,	0	3	3
Congenital Malformations, etc.,	7	3	10
Suicide,	0	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents,	4	0	4
Other Violent Causes,	5	5	10
Diarrhoea under 2 years,	0	0	0
All other causes,	24	15	39
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All causes,	207	239	446

The highest mortality is caused by the diseases of the circulatory system, the majority of which occur in old age. It is noteworthy how only Tuberculosis amongst the so called infectious diseases, which were the cause of so many deaths especially amongst children, has any appreciable mortality today.

Perhaps the most satisfactory figure is that of only one death associated with childbirth.

The following table gives a comparison with the vital statistics of the country as a whole. It will be noted that the Altrincham figures generally shew very favourably in this respect.

The most pleasing figures are in respect of infantile mortality and the absence of deaths from diarrhoea under two years of age.



	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and great towns.	148 smaller towns. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census.	Altrincham.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.			
<u>BIRTHS.</u>				
Live Births,	16.7	18.7	18.0	15.1
Still Births,	0.39	0.47	0.40	0.38
<u>DEATHS.</u>				
All Causes,	11.7	12.5	11.6	11.3
Typhoid & Paratyphoid,	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough,	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria,	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis,	0.45	0.52	0.42	0.25
Influenza,	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.23
Smallpox,	0.00	0.00	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio- encephalitis,	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
Pneumonia,	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.25
All causes under 1 yr. of age,	32.0	37.0	30.0	23.5
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 yrs. of age,	3.0	3.8	2.4	0.00
<u>NOTIFICATIONS.</u>				
Puerperal fever and pyrexia,	6.31	8.14	5.30	0.00

### Diphtheria.

There have been no cases of confirmed diphtheria in the Borough during 1949. This is undoubtedly the result of the intensive immunisation campaign carried out in the last few years, and it is to be hoped that the arrangements for immunisation now carried out through the County Council services will continue the work as effectively.

As a comparison of what this disease meant in previous years I give the following facts.

### Summary of Notifications received and deaths due to Diphtheria during the years 1930 to 1949.

Year.	Cases Notified.	Deaths.	Year.	Cases Notified.	Deaths.
1930	46	6	1940	21	-
1931	17	-	1941	-	-
1932	7	-	1942	-	-
1933	14	-	1943	-	-
1934	19	1	1944	-	-
1935	11	-	1945	7	-
1936	80	5	1946	-	-
1937	32	4	1947	-	-
1938	62	4	1948	1	-
1939	24	1	1949	-	-

## Measles.

There were a large number of cases continuing the biennial trend which is the feature of this disease. Fortunately there were no deaths and the disease generally appears to have been mild in character as compared with the earlier part of the century.

## Poliomyelitis.

Whilst this was an epidemic year in the country as a whole there were only two cases notified in the Borough.

### Prevalence of Infectious Diseases in the Borough of Altrincham during 1949.

The following table gives the cases of infectious diseases notified to me:-

Scarlet Fever,	52
Whooping Cough,	99
Measles,	363
Acute Poliomyelitis,	2
Pneumonia,	37
Erysipelas,	9
Acute Polioencephalitis,	2
Diphtheria,	0
Encephalitis Lethargica,	1
Dysentery,	1
Cerebra Spinal Fever,	1
Malaria,	1
Food Poisoning,	3
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	572
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### Summary of Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

	Total No. of Cases.	0	1	3	5	10	15	25 and over	45	65 and over	Age not known
Scarlet Fever,	52	-	10	4	30	5	2	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough,	99	7	24	30	33	2	-	-	-	-	3
Measles,	363	3	90	95	146	21	2	1	-	-	5
Acute Poliomyelitis,	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia,	37	13	4	-	-	-	9	-	4	7	-
Erysipelas,	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	2	-
Acute Polio- encephalitis,	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica,	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dysentery,	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cerebra Spinal Fever,	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria,	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning,	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1

Tuberculosis - New Cases During 1949.

Age Periods.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0-1	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	1	-	3
5-15	-	1	1	4
15-25	-	-	-	-
25-35	2	2	-	4
35-45	2	1	1	-
45-55	2	1	-	-
55-65	2	-	-	-
65 & upwards,	-	-	-	-
Age unknown,	-	-	-	-
Total,	8	6	2	11

Deaths from Tuberculosis During 1949.

Age Periods.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0-1	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	1
5-15	-	-	-	-
15-25	1	1	-	-
25-35	1	1	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-
45-55	1	-	-	-
55-65	3	-	-	-
65 & upwards,	-	3	-	-
Age unknown,	-	-	-	-
Total,	6	5	-	1

Medical Examinations for Superannuation Purposes.

During the year under review I have examined 22 members of the staff in connection with the superannuation scheme.

Yours obediently,

DONALD LONCBOTTOM.

Medical Officer of Health.



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the year 1949.

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Sanitary Department,  
Town Hall,  
Altrincham.

February, 1950.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Altrincham Borough Council.

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Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report of the Sanitary Administration  
for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Water Supply.

The Manchester Corporation are the statutory authority for the  
supply of water in the district.

The supply has been satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Samples of water have been taken by the Water Undertakers in  
the district and the following is an example:

4th February, 1950.

TYPICAL ANALYSIS OF THIRLMERE SUPPLY.

The supply is subject only to slight variations and the  
following is a typical analysis.

REMARKS. Clear water free from sediment.

pH value	.. .. .	7.2
Colour as p.p.m. platinum	.. .. .	12
Turbidity, p.p.m. silica	.. .. .	1.5
Odour and taste	.. .. .	nil

Parts per Million.

Total solids dried at 180°C,	40.0
Free acidity as CO <sub>2</sub>	2.0
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	12.0
Total hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	22
Chlorides as Cl <sub>2</sub>	7.0
Nitrates as N <sub>2</sub>	0.50
Nitrites as N <sub>2</sub>	faint trace
Free and saline ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub>	0.050
Albuminoid ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub>	0.040
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hours at 27°C	0.75
Silica as SiO <sub>2</sub>	2.0
Iron as Fe	0.15
Manganese as Mn	trace

NOTE. Traces of nitrites, when present, are derived from the  
Chloramine sterilising treatment applied and are not due  
to pollution.

## PLUMBO-SOLVENCY.

The water from Thirlmere Lake is neutralised with 4 p.p.m. hydrated lime to raise the pH value and alkalinity. The lead content of the water after standing overnight in contact with a lead service pipe does not exceed 0.2 p.p.m. of lead as Pb.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

The water is sterilised with chloramine shortly after it leaves Thirlmere Lake and again at Lostock, prior to entering the distribution mains.

Sixty samples were collected in the Altrincham area and the results were as follows:

Samples free from Faecal type coli,	60
Samples free from coliform bacteria,	59
Sample with non-faecal type coli,	1
The one sample with non-faecal type coli contained only 1 per 100 mls of water.	

### SUMMARY.

The water has been of excellent chemical and bacteriological purity throughout the year.

J.D.JOSEPH.  
Chief Chemist.

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A pipe supply of water from the mains of the Manchester Corporation Water Department has not been provided to Brookside Farm and Cottages, Off Sinderland Road, Altrincham. Water is still obtained from a well at the farm.

## Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

Every effort is made to maintain a weekly collection of refuse, so that the householders know when the collection takes place, and paper salvage can be removed at the same time. Periods arise such as holidays, and when vehicles are off the road, which create a certain amount of disorganisation, and at such times it is not possible to maintain a weekly collection. A large amount of residue is left from household fires, due to the quality of the fuel, which must be collected with the other refuse from the ashbins.

The average number of ashbins emptied each week is approximately 13,000, and the weight is something like 200 tons.

The Corporation entered into a contract with the Thames Board Mills Ltd. for a period of 5 years for the sale of waste paper at the following prices:-

Mixed Papers and Cardboard,	£5.0.0. per ton free on lorry at Corporation Depot.
Newspapers,	£8.0.0. do.
Books and Magazines,	£7.0.0. do.

It is very desirable for householders to keep as much paper out of the refuse as possible, so that it can be collected and sold for salvage, which is in the national interest, as well as that of the Corporation.

Several meetings have been held during the year in an endeavour to find a suitable site for the disposal of refuse. A Joint Committee was constituted of representatives from Altrincham Municipal Borough, Bowdon Urban District and the Bucklow Rural District to explore the question of tipping facilities for the Altrincham and Bowdon districts.



At the end of the year the deposit of refuse was taking place in the small meadow at the rear of the old farmhouse at the Sewage Disposal Works. It is anticipated that this site will be exhausted during the summer of 1950.

The Refuse Collection vehicles consist of:-

2 Eleven Cubic Yard S.D.Freighters,	1948.
2 Eleven Cubic Yard S.D.Freighters,	1946.
1 Guy Vixant,	1942.
1 Eleven Cubic Yard S.D.Freighter,	1939.
1 Ten-Cubic Yard S.D.Freighter,	1936.
2 Eight Cubic Yard Leyland Waggon,	1932.

The number of receptacles emptied during the year were as follows.

#### Ashbins.

#### Ashpits.

No. of houses relieved, 611947.	No. of houses relieved,	2,002.
No. of Ashbins emptied, 673542.	No. of wet ashpits emptied,	35.
No. of tipping ashbins, 2758.	No. of pails emptied,	1,950.
No. of loads removed, 5833.	No. of dry ashpits emptied,	47.

#### Collection and Disposal of Salvage.

The amount of salvage collected and sold for the financial year 1st April, 1948 to 31st March, 1949, is as follows:-

	T.	c.	q.	£.	s.	d.
Paper,	346.	7.	1.	2208.	1.	10.
Ferrous Metals,	12.	10.	2.	31.	6.	3.
Non-Ferrous Metals,		13.	0.	29.	7.	2.
Textiles,	16.	1.	0.	200.	0.	0.
Bottles, etc.,	42.	18.	2.	128.	15.	6.
Kitchen Waste,	43.	0.	2.	64.	10.	9.
Bones,		15.	0.	4.	6.	4.
	462.	5.	3.	2666.	7.	10.

An incentive bonus is paid to the workmen on a percentage of salvage collected. Salvage collected per month up to £250 - 15 per cent. £251 to £350 - 20 per cent.

#### Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

#### Inspections made during the year.

Canal Boats,	2	Public Conveniences,	101
Water Supply,	6	Places of Entertainment,	13
Drainage,	398	Refuse Collection,	61
Stables and Piggeries,	43	Refuse Disposal,	91
Common Lodging Houses,	9	Rodent Control,	26
Movable Structures,	51	Smoke Observations,	7
Factories,	41	Schools,	19
Workshops,	2	Shops,	61
Bakehouses,	52	Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits,	285
Meetings Attended,	74	Dairies and Milkshops,	95
Hackney Carriages,	39	Inspections in Market,	171
Ashbins,	1540	Infectious Disease enquiries,	46
Public Mortuary,	20	Butchers premises,	37
Legal Proceedings,	1	Grocers,	27
Slaughterhouses,	589	Greengrocers and Fruiterers,	11
Cowsheds,	10	Ice Cream Premises,	105
Housing Visits,	72	Food Preparing Premises,	73
Houses Inspected,	475	Restaurants,	12
Verminous Premises,	23	Street Vendors, etc.,	7
Overcrowding Inspections,	4	Fishmongers and Poulterers,	15

# Notices Served.

Notices Served.			Notices Complied with.		
Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total
1,211	167	1,378	1,076	154	1,230

  

Notices Outstanding.		
Informal	Statutory	Total
135	13	148

## Sanitary Improvements Effected.

Roofs repaired,	42	Yard paving or paths repaired,	16
Floors repaired,	18	Door steps repaired,	7
Plastered walls & ceilings repaired,	31	Obstructed drains cleared,	67
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.,	14	Obstructed water closets cleansed,	4
Window cills repaired,	4	Drains repaired or reconstructed,	5
Sashcords renewed,	17	Inspection chamber covers renewed,	4
Stairs repaired,	2	Water Closet basins renewed,	6
Door repairs, rehung, etc.,	8	Water Closet basins provided with seats,	8
Firegrates repaired, reset or renewed,	23	Water closet cisterns repaired or renewed,	10
Hearths repaired,	6	Soil or vent pipes renewed,	3
Chimneys or chimney stacks repaired,	4	Basements drained,	3
New sinks provided,	4	Closet structures repaired,	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed,	12	Closet structures, internal limewashing,	10
Wash coppers repaired or renewed,	2	New pails provided,	1
External walls pointed,	28	Ashbins provided by owners and Corporation in default,	1015
Ovens repaired or renewed,	3		
Eaves gutters or rainwater pipes renewed,	27		
Dangerous walls repaired,	14		

## Other Nuisances Investigated.

Smoke and Dust,	4.
Animals improperly kept,	8.
Accumulations of refuse and manure,	28.
Infestations of refuse cleared,	8.

## Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The Corporation are the Authority for the administration of this Act in the Borough.

Number of cases investigated,	114.
Major,	57.
Minor,	57.

Advice is given by the Rodent Operator to occupiers of premises as to the measures to be adopted for the extermination of rats and mice



## Housing.

New houses erected for the Local Authority,	62.
New houses erected by Private Enterprise,	15.

## Food.

Licences to retail Designated Milks in the area have been issued as follows:-

Supplementary Licence to sell "Pasteurized" Milk,	2.
Dealers Licence to bottle "Tuberculin Tested" Milk,	4.
Dealers Licence to retail "Pasteurized" Milk,	1.
Dealers Licence to retail "Tuberculin Tested" Milk,	8.
Supplementary Licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk,	2.
Licence to Pasteurize Milk,	3.
Supplementary Licence to retail "Accredited Milk",	1.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, came into operation on the First day of October, 1949. The Act makes the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries responsible for the registration of dairy farms, and of persons carrying on the trade of dairy farmer. Licences in respect of pasteurizing and sterilizing establishments are issued by the Food and Drugs Authority, which in the Borough of Altrincham is the Cheshire County Council. All dealers and supplementary licences will continue to be issued by the Altrincham Borough Council.

## Samples taken in 1949.

Ice Cream. Twenty samples of Ice Cream have been taken and examined by the Methylene Blue Test. The results were as follows:

Provisional Grade 1.	6 samples.
" " 2.	4 "
" " 3.	3 "
" " 4.	7 "

## Milk.

No. of samples taken,	25.	
Pasteurized,	9	Satisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurized),	2	" 2 unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested,		1 "
Accredited,		3 "
Ungraded,	1	" 7 "

There is no legal bacteriological standard for ungraded milk.

29 samples of Pasteurized Milk were examined by the Cheshire County Council, all of which were satisfactory.

## Swimming Bath Water.

Twelve samples of water taken from the Public Swimming Bath were examined bacteriologically, 10 were satisfactory, and 2 unsatisfactory.

## Other Foods.

No. of samples taken,	8.	
Synthetic Cream,		2 unsatisfactory.
Edible oil,	4	satisfactory.
Egg Yolk,		1 "
Flour,	1	"

The above were examined for coliform organisms.

# Summary of Foods Surrendered, 1949.

## Canned and Bottled Foods.

Milk,	192 tins	Syrup,	2 tins
Carrots,	35 "	Rabbit,	2 "
Peas,	67 "	Danish Pork,	10 "
Parsnips,	4 "	Spaghetti,	1 "
Beans,	35 "	Whalemeat Steak,	1 "
Potatoes,	2 "		
Tomatoes,	20 "	<u>Canned Fish.</u>	
Soup,	32 "		
Beetroot,	5 "	Sardines,	16 "
Jam,	83 "	(Fish Paste,	9 "
Apple Jelly,	7 "	(Fish Paste,	2 lbs.
Mixed Vegetables,	8 "	Fish Cakes,	2½ doz.
Pickled Cabbage,	8 jars	Salmon,	7 tins
Piccalilli,	3 "	Herrings,	4 "
Mixed Pickles,	80 "	Pilchards,	17 "
Sandwich Spread,	1 "	Mussels,	88 "
Pigs Hearts,	1 tin	Brislings,	5 "
Pork Sausage,	1 "	Snoek,	1 "
Fruit,	44 "	Crawfish,	11 "
Minced Beef Loaf,	40 "	Tunny Fish,	3 "
Veal & Ham Loaf	15 "	Various,	10 "
Fruit Juice,	137 "		
Marmalade,	10 "		

## Fish (Wet & Dry).

Haddock,	9 stone	(Miscellaneous Foods contd.)	
Kippers,	1 "	Oat Flakes,	14 lbs
Hake,	7 "	Lentils,	112 lbs
Plaice,	19½ "	Barley,	56 lbs
Lemon Sole,	18 "	Pastry Mixture,	70 pkts.
Cod,	19½ "	Coffee & Chicory Essence,	18 botts.
Smoked Cod,	6 "	Salad Cream,	86 "
Codroe,	2 "	Vitacream,	3 galls.
Halibut,	1 box	Mayonnaise,	366 botts.
Mixed Fish,	2 "	Chutney,	79 jars.
		Sauce,	8 botts.

## Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Tomatoes,	10 lbs
Figs,	51 "
Onions,	14 "
Flour,	101 "
Semolina,	1½ "
Creamola,	1 pkt.
Cream Cheese,	18¾ lbs
Camembert Cheese,	3 boxes
Chicken,	100 lbs
Jellied Chicken,	28½ "
Cheese Trimmings,	16½ "
Eggs,	10 doz.

## Meat.

Frozen Mutton,	(2 full carcasses 1 part "
Brisket,	6½ lbs
Sausage,	27 "
Bacon,	36¾ "
Home Killed Meat,	36 "
Frozen Rabbits,	100 "

## Meat and Food Inspection.

## Slaughterhouses.

The Slaughterhouses situate in Moss Lane, Altrincham, which are the property of the Altrincham Corporation, were taken over by the Ministry of Food in 1940, who have remained tenants of the premises ever since. A considerable increase in the throughput of animals has taken place since the Ministry of Food entered into possession of the premises. During the past ten years various alterations and adaptations have been made to make the premises more suitable for the purpose for which they are now used.

The Sanitary Inspectors examine the carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered, including animals sent for immediate slaughter, and issue a certificate to the Slaughterhouse Manager of the Ministry of Food, where they are of the opinion that any meat is unfit for human food. The Ministry of Food are responsible for the disposal of all carcasses and organs of animals which have been slaughtered and found to be diseased or otherwise unfit for food.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud. cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Number Killed,	1777	1799	1496	11393	179
Number inspected,	1777	1799	1496	11393	179
All diseases except T.B.					
Whole carcasses condemned,	1	25	14	28	4
Carcasses of which some part was condemned,	40	32	2	26	22
Percentage of Number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis,	2.3	3.16	1.06	.47	14.5
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses condemned,	5	56	1	-	4
Carcasses of which some part was condemned,	18	62	-	-	5
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with T.B.,	1.3	6.5	0.06	-	5.0

Organs Condemned.

	Bovines Including Cows.		Calves.		Sheep & Lambs.		Pigs.	
	Dis. ex- cept T.B.	T.B. only.	Dis. ex- cept T.B.	T.B. only.	Dis. ex- cept T.B.	T.B. only.	Dis. ex- cept T.B.	T.B. only.
Heads,	17	175	1		7		4	7
Plucks,	44	931	1		65		5	3
Hearts,	20	34	1		55		6	2
Skirts,	14	73						
Livers & Part Livers,	2054	141	13		605		5	3
Spleens,	37	88	1		55		9	2
Tripes,	35	79	15		1		17	4
Intestines,	73	371	1		20		23	4
Kidneys,	180	85			3		18	6
Udders,	542	13			2		22	
Feet,	12						23	
Tails,	1							



Summary of Meat Unfit at Slaughterhouses  
During 1949.

	BOVINES				SHEEP				PIGS			
Weight of Meat Condemned (Portions & whole carcasses only),	Tons.Cwts.Qrs.Lbs.				Tons.Cwts.Qrs.Lbs.				Tons.Cwts.Qrs.Lbs.			
	22.	0.	0.	2.	12.	2.	12.		15.	3.	7.	
No. of Animals Slaughtered,	5,071				11,393				179			
	Carcases & Organs		Portions of Carcases		Carcases & Organs		Portions of Carcases		Carcases & Organs		Portions of Carcases	
Tuberculosis,	63		86						5		3	
Johnes Disease	2											
with Emaciation,												
Bruising,			21		1		3				1	
Dropsy,	10		14		9				1			
Abscesses,			7		3		8				2	
Septicaemia,	4				4							
Toxemia,					1							
Inflammation,					1		2		1		6	
Immaturity,	3								1			
Joint Ill and												
Umbilical Pyaemia,	3											
Decomposition,	1		1		10							
Jaundice,	3											
Mastitis,											1	
Presternal												
Calcification,			4									
Bone Taint,			6									
Fever,	2						1					
Arthritis,			5				3				4	
Haemorrhage,											1	
Fracture,			8		1		1				1	
Wasting,					1		2		2			
Septic												
Pericarditis,	8											
Nephritis,	1											
Moribund,					1							
Oedema,			2		1							
Urticaria,											2	
Acute Swine												
Erysypelas,											1	
Totals,	100		154		33		20		10		22	



### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

- (a) Total number of outbreaks, 1.
- (b) Number of Cases, 3.
- (c) Number of Deaths, 0.
- (d) Organisms - Salmonella Aberdeen.
- (e) Nine Meat Pies.

The source of the supply was from Manchester, and the Manchester Public Health Authorities were informed forthwith. These proved to be the first cases of what developed into an outbreak of food poisoning involving some of the districts south of Manchester. The Medical Officer of Health to the City of Manchester reported upon the outbreak which was very quickly brought to finality.

### Clean Food Campaigns.

The Borough Council had under consideration the transport and handling of meat from the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse Depot, Moss Lane, Altrincham to the retail butchers shops. The Ministry of Food have engaged the services of transport contractors to convey the meat from the Slaughterhouse Depot to the retail butchers shops. It was in respect of the conveyance and handling of the meat that the criticism was directed. In Altrincham the meat is conveyed in vehicles the property of British Road Services.

A meeting was arranged when the representatives of the Ministry of Food met a Sub-Committee appointed by the Borough Council. The side curtains to the vehicles used for carrying the meat should be replaced with roller shutters, and other improvements were suggested.

The Ministry of Food issued Circular MF 20/49 under the heading-"Transport and Handling of Meat". It stated that attention had been drawn to the frequent and sometimes critical references in the press and elsewhere, to the conditions under which meat was transported and handled and setting out a statement of the present arrangements for transport in relation to the powers possessed by Local Authorities in the discharge of their statutory obligations. The Ministry pointed out that the transport of meat for sale by road, was undertaken by the Meat Transport Organisation Ltd. under agreement with the Ministry.

### Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections have been made and particulars as required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service Form 572 are as follows:-

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1949 FOR THE BOROUGH OF  
ALTRINCHAM IN THE COUNTY OF CHESTER.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of  
the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. on Regi- ster. (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections. (4)	Written notices. (5)	Occupiers prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	27	25	6		1
(ii) Factories not incl- uded in (i) in which sec. 7 is en- forced by the L.A.	2	128	72	16		2
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the L.A. (excluding out- workers premises)	3	7				3
TOTAL,		162	97	22		

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecut- ions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspec- tor. (5)	By H.M. Inspec- tor. (6)		
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	4	7	7				4
Overcrowding(S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable Temp.(S.3)	6						6
Inadequate vent.(S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	8						8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).(a)insufficient	9	3	3		3		9
(b)unsuitable or defective,	10	6	5		4		10
(c)not separate for sexes,	11	1	1		1		11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers),	12	1	1		1		12
TOTAL,	60	18	17		9		60

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 & 111)

Nature of Work.  (1)	M/c. Line No.  (2)	Section 110: No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c)  (3)
Wearing apparel:- Making, etc.	14	27
Cleaning & Washing,	15	

The Borough Council appointed Mr. R.D.Morris as Second Additional Sanitary Inspector in place of Mr. H.L.Latham who left the service of the Authority. The appointment was confirmed by the Ministry of Health.

One half of the salaries of each of the three Sanitary Inspectors is recovered from the Government, through the County Council, and a security of tenure exists in the appointment of the Chief Sanitary Inspector by virtue of Section 110 of the Local Government Act, 1933, and the Additional Sanitary Inspectors as provided in the service Agreements.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JAMES E. CRICKMORE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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